

## CLAIMS

The invention claimed is:

1. A computer-readable medium containing a program for preventing overload in a packet telephony gateway, the program comprising instructions for:
  - receiving a CPU utilization threshold input;
  - detecting when an incoming telephone call is received;
  - receiving a present CPU utilization value input;
  - determining, when a new incoming telephone call is denoted as being received, whether a number aspect of the present CPU utilization value input is larger than a number aspect of a CPU utilization threshold input, and if so for setting a deny flag; and
  - refusing the incoming call if the deny flag is set.
2. The medium of claim 1, wherein
  - the incoming call input sets a ring flag when a new incoming telephone call is received, and
  - the present CPU utilization value input is updated when the ring flag is set.
3. A method for preventing overload in a packet telephony gateway receiving incoming telephone calls, comprising:
  - setting a CPU utilization threshold of a CPU of the gateway;
  - when an incoming telephone call is received, comparing a present CPU utilization value with the entered CPU utilization threshold; and
  - if the present CPU utilization value is larger than the threshold, refusing the incoming call.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein setting is by issuing a setting command, and by saving an aspect of the setting command in NVRAM.
5. The method of claim 3, further comprising determining a CPU utilization threshold of a CPU of the gateway before setting.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein setting is by issuing a setting command, and by  
2 saving an aspect of the setting command in NVRAM.

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1 7. A computer-readable medium containing a program for preventing overload in a  
2 packet telephony gateway, the program comprising:  
3 a CPU utilization threshold input;  
4 an incoming call input when a new incoming telephone call is received;  
5 a present CPU utilization value input;  
6 gauging software for determining, when a new incoming telephone call is denoted as  
7 being received, whether a number aspect of the present CPU utilization value input is larger  
8 than a number aspect of a CPU utilization threshold input, and if so for setting a deny flag;  
9 and  
10 call refusing software for the packet telephony gateway to refuse the incoming call if  
11 the deny flag is set.

1 8. The medium of claim 7, wherein  
2 the incoming call input sets a ring flag when a new incoming telephone call is  
3 received, and  
4 the present CPU utilization value input is updated when the ring flag is set.